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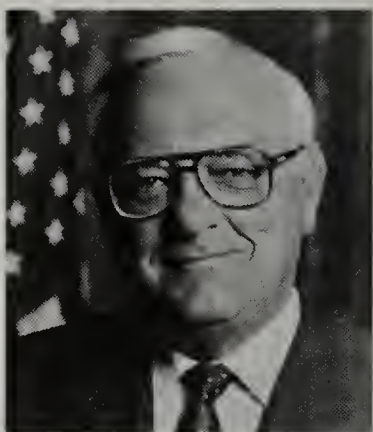
Reaching out in service to:  
**Senior citizens  
and persons  
with disabilities**

GEORGE H. RYAN  
Secretary of State

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



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## Special outreach services

One of my responsibilities as Secretary of State is to oversee the Senior Citizens, Human Resources and Veterans Department. It's gratifying to be involved in this area — especially now as we as a society are becoming more attuned to the special needs of both our older population and persons with disabilities.

This pamphlet outlines some of the ways the Secretary of State's office is providing assistance to these groups. Please review this material, and contact my office if you have any suggestions.

I assure you of an ongoing commitment to providing the best service to all Illinois citizens.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George H. Ryan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

George H. Ryan  
Secretary of State

## Cut car costs

Those senior citizens and persons with disabilities who qualify for the Circuit Breaker tax relief program can get 50 percent off the cost for license plates. This discount is available if you:

- are at least 16 years old and are totally disabled, or are at least age 65, and
- have an annual household income of less than \$14,000 and
- are an Illinois resident at the time you apply.

For more information and an application for the Circuit Breaker program, contact:

Illinois Dept. of Revenue  
Circuit Breaker Division  
P.O. Box 3124  
Springfield, Illinois 62708  
(800) 732-8866

Senior citizens can cut their car costs through another program as well: insurance discounts. This measure is available to certain drivers age 55 and over who successfully complete an Automobile Insurance Discount Program approved by the Secretary of State's office. More information on this is available at the senior citizens' toll-free hotline, (800) 252-2904.



## Review before you renew

The Rules of the Road Review Course is designed to give drivers, especially senior citizens and persons with disabilities, the knowledge and confidence needed to pass the drivers license renewal exams.

Local organizations sponsor the course under the direction of the Secretary of State's of-



fice. This free class is offered more than 3,000 times annually, at about 600 locations statewide.

## Get the picture (for free)

Persons with disabilities or who are at least 65 years old are entitled to a free photo identification card through the Secretary of

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State's office. (There is a \$4 fee for others.) The card is valid for five years and may be obtained through any drivers license facility upon providing three forms of identification. The photo card is a legal form of I.D. and may be used

in any lawful situation.



Persons with disabilities can also receive free of charge an Illinois Disabled Person's Identification Card, valid for proving

eligibility for such state programs as the Circuit Breaker and handicapped parking. The card includes a photo of the applicant and lists the classification of his or her disability. To qualify for this special I.D., an applicant must be an Illinois resident and provide a physician's evaluation of a qualifying disability. Applications are available at all driver license facilities.

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## **Park with more ease**

Identification for handicapped parking is available from the Secretary of State in the form of either cards or license plates.

The handicapped parking cards are available from the Secretary of State at no cost to persons with permanent or temporary disabilities.

The other option — handicapped license plates — is available to persons who are permanently disabled, and may be purchased by them at the cost of standard license plates for each vehicle titled in their name. Also note that veterans with disabilities may obtain special disabled veteran plates if their disabilities are 100 percent service-related.

A special guide to explain the handicapped parking laws in Illinois is available from the Secretary of State's office; call the senior citizen hotline at (800)-252-2904.

## **For the eyes and ears**

Audiovisual programs covering such topics as the license plate manufacturing process and



traffic safety are available through the Secretary of State's office. There is no charge.



## Looking for a good book?

The Illinois State Library, which is part of the Secretary of State's office, uses a network of 18 regional library systems throughout the state to ensure that special services are available to persons who are older or who have a disability. This in-

cludes, for example, large print books, Talking Books, and books printed in Braille.

Arrangements can also be made so that those who are home-bound can have materials delivered. In addition, transportation to library programs and other services are often available. More information is available through the local library or by calling (800)-331-2351.

For additional information write or call:

**George H. Ryan  
Secretary of State  
Senior Citizens,  
Human Resources  
and Veterans Department  
450 Centennial Building  
Springfield, Illinois 62756**

**(800) 252-2904  
Voice or TDD**